

Archaeological Site

CT-272

John Wright Simmons Property

Bowens

19th century

Private

Several generations of Simmons are known to have built three houses, several barns, a blacksmith's shop, and a mill on this site. Two 20th century houses, two barns, and a cemetery remain on the property.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John Wright Simmons Property (house site, barn, blacksmith's shop site,

AND/OR COMMON

and graveyard)

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Sixes Road (Maryland Route 506)

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Bovens

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

MD

Calvert

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Calvert County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Main Street (Maryland Route 765)

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Prince Frederick

MD

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

| CONDITION                          |                                       | CHECK ONE                          | CHECK ONE                                      |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD      | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED   | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR      | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |                                    |  |

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Blacksmith's Shop

The shop shown on the 1925 plat is presumably a blacksmith's shop and it is probably the one indicated on the 1873 Atlas of Maryland map. Older residents say that Marion and his father, J.W. Simmons were both blacksmiths and they remember the shop being on this spot. It stood right on Sixes Road on the east corner formed by the dirt road which leads to the old frame barn (east of "old house" site). This site was examined and lying on the surface was a large wooden hub like those seen on ox carts. The hub was bound with forged iron straps. This could prove to be an interesting archaeological site.

House (site)

The "old house" is gone, however, its well and box cover-and-pulley still stand to mark the spot. The "new house" is empty and deteriorating but it survives along with the "house" and both barns. The graveyard exists with most of its stones intact. The mill road is identifiable and neighborhood residents have seen the mill race within the past decade. A small section of the worm fence was found.

Barn

An unusually small five room tobacco barn constructed with hewn materials and a post-and-beam frame. It appears to be a Nineteenth Century structure but its exact age is not yet certain.

Graveyard

Perhaps as many as two dozen graves are in this yard. A 1951 survey identifies this as the "Simmons Family" cemetery although there are quite a few Hammetts buried here as well. The cemetery was used as recently as the 1950's, however, most of the graves were dug during the late Nineteenth century. Many of the occupants were born early in the century.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

| PERIOD  |  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING      | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION            | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE  | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS               | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION               | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING             | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT  | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-     | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY     | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION               |   |  |  |

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Simmons family are still in the neighborhood and their involvement with its development appears to be extensive. In the late nineteenth century, the Simmons owned much of the land on the north side of Sixes Road just east of Bowens crossroads. It is known that different generations owned and built at least three houses as well as a couple of barns, a blacksmith's shop, and a mill. Many of the Simmons are buried in a graveyard that is still on the property.

On a 1925 proposed plat for the division of the J. W. Simmons estate the site is shown to contain an "old house" with outbuildings nearby as well as a "new house". There is also a barn east of the "old house" a "shop" plus an "old barn" and a third house to the west. An "old Mill road" is indicated on the east side of the property as is a graveyard. The mill road leads to the "old mill seat" at the extreme north end of the property. Different patches of woods are indicated (presumably for timbering purposes) as well as a worm fence.

**11 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY** Description and significance statements: Wayne Nield.

NAME / TITLE

Form compiled by:

ORGANIZATION

DATE

STREET &amp; NUMBER

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

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